

# Worksession

<b>Agenda Item #</b>	7
<b>Meeting Date</b>	23 April 2007
<b>Prepared By</b>	Ilona Blanchard Senior Planner
<b>Approved By</b>	Barbara B. Matthews City Manager

<b>Discussion Item</b>	Discussion of Neighborhood Traffic Calming Study Proposals
<b>Background</b>	<p>Proposals for the development of a neighborhood traffic calming study for up to four neighborhoods were solicited in March. The proposed study, included in the City's FY07 budget, is intended to address concerns raised by the community regarding a number of traffic related problems including but not limited to cut through traffic and speeding in residential neighborhoods. The planned studies are budgeted for FY07 and must be completed by the end of the fiscal year.</p> <p>Four proposals were received by the April 17 deadline and, as of April 18, under review by staff and a representative of the Safe Roadways Committee. Interviews with one or more of the respondents are tentatively scheduled for April 23 and 24.</p> <p>A cursory review of the proposals indicates that, while one firm came in under budget, the proposal may not fully address the parameters of the planned study. Other proposals exceeded the allocated funding and would result in fewer neighborhoods being studied than initially planned. Additional information will be presented at the April 23 worksession.</p> <p>During the development of the parameters of the planned traffic calming study, a number of issues were raised by the community which fell outside the authority of the City. These concerns were forwarded to the State Highway Administration for consideration. Staff has recently learned that due to the volume of safety concerns identified by the community, the District 3 Assistant District Engineer of Traffic has proposed that SHA and the City partner in the development of a comprehensive master plan to upgrade pedestrian access on State and City roads. As proposed, this would be a pilot project and would recognize the City as an area of "concentrated pedestrian activity" within the overall State Highway system. Additional information on this proposal will be forwarded as it becomes available.</p>
<b>Policy</b>	<p><u>Takoma Park Master Plan Adopted December 2000</u></p> <p>Protect residential neighborhoods from commercial and through traffic. To discourage through traffic from using local streets, the City of Takoma Park seeks to reduce operating speeds by installing speed humps, ovals, all way stop signs and other impediments. The City also encourages walking, biking,</p>

	<p>transit use, telecommuting and flexible work schedules.</p> <p>Where very few cars use a street, and sidewalks are not desired by residents, a mixed street can be designated. Traffic calming measures should be considered along both selected Major Neighborhood Routes and other local neighborhood streets.</p>
<b>Fiscal Impact</b>	The FY07 budget includes funding in the amount of \$25,000.
<b>Attachments</b>	None
<b>Recommendation</b>	Discuss proposals and provide staff with direction on how to proceed.
<b>Special Consideration</b>	A single reading ordinance authorizing the execution of a contract for Neighborhood Traffic Calming Studies is tentatively scheduled for consideration on April 30.